

REMARKS

The above amendments and these remarks are responsive to the Office Action issued on March 14, 2005. By this response, claims 3-7 and 9 are amended, and claims 1, 2, 8 and 10 are cancelled without prejudice. The title and the Abstract of the Disclosure are amended to improve wording. No new matter is added. Claims 3-7 and 9 are now active for examination.

The Office Action dated March 14, 2005 rejected claims 1-10 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph as being indefinite. Claims 1 and 10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(a) as being anticipated by Honda (JP2002-041078). Claims 1, 8 and 10 stood rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Morgan et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,192,343). The Office Action rejected claim 2 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Morgan et al. Claims 3-7 and 9, the specification and the title were objected to for informalities. The Office Action suggested that the Abstract of the Disclosure should be amended to remove reference numerals.

It is respectfully submitted that the claim rejections are traversed and the objections are addressed in view of the amendments and/or remarks presented herein.

The Rejections of Claims 1, 2, 8 and 10 Are Moot

By this response, claims 1, 2, 8 and 10 are cancelled without prejudice. Accordingly, the rejections of claims 1, 2, 8 and 10 are now moot.

Claims 3-7 and 9 Are Patentable

Claims 3-7 and 9 indirectly depend on claim 1 and were objected to for depending from a rejected base claim. The Examiner indicated that claims 3-7 and 9 would be allowable if claims

3-7 and 9 are rewritten into independent form including every limitation of the base claim and any intervening claims, and to overcome the rejection of their base claim under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph (the Office Action asserted that claim 1 includes the term “easiness” which does not have a clear meaning in the context of claim 1).

By this Response, claims 3-7 and 9 are rewritten into independent form including every limitation of claim 1 and any intervening claims. Claims 3-7 and 9 are further amended to overcome the rejection of their base claim under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, and to improve wording and correct clerical errors. Specifically, claims 3-7 and 9, as amended, does not include the description “the weighted values representing the objective recognition terms’ easiness to be displayed on the display unit,” which was included in the original claim 1 and the Office Action asserted as indefinite. Applicants submit that claims 3-7 and 9 are patentable over the documents of record. Favorable reconsideration of claims 3-7 and 9 is respectfully requested.

The Objections to the Title and the Specification Are addressed

The Office Action objected to the title of the application for being non-descriptive of the invention. By this Response, the title has been amended as suggested by the Examiner. It is believed that the title is now in proper form.

The specification was objected to for failing to provide appropriate support for the term “easiness” used in the original claim 1. By this Response, the term “easiness” is deleted from the claims. Consequently, the objection to the specification is now moot.

For the reasons given above, Applicants believe that this application is in condition for allowance, and request that the Examiner give the application favorable reconsideration and permit it to issue as a patent. If the Examiner believes that the application can be put in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' representatives listed below.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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